

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 205658
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY:NEA:ARDA Y

APPROVED BY:ARDA Y

S/ S-O:RPERITO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 205658

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 14211 ACTION SECSTATE AUG 26

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 14211

NODIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: EG PLO

SUBJ: EGYPT/ARAFAT TALKS

REF: SECTO 09049

1. SINCE TODAY IS FRIDAY, MUSLIM SABBATH, I GOT IN TOUCH
WITH FAHMY AT HIS HOME TO CONVEY YOUR RESPONSE TO HIS SUGGES-
TION. TOLD HIM WE ARE NOT PREPARED AMEND ORIGINAL LANGUAGE
OF OUR FORMULATION RE RESOLUTION 242 AND CANNOT AGREE TO
DELETE SECOND SENTENCE OF FORMULATION AS FAHMY SUGGESTED. I

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AGAIN REMINDED HIM THAT WORDING WAS CAREFULLY DRAFTED AND IS
ESSENTIAL FOR OUR PURPOSES.

2. FAHMY AGAIN MADE EFFORT ARGUE THAT SECOND SENTENCE IS
REDUNDANT, BUT DID NOT PURSUE MATTER. FAHMY THEN STATED
THAT WE MADE MISTAKE IN WAY IN WHICH WE DISTRIBUTED OUR
DRAFT STATEMENT. SAUDI FONMIN SAUD BIN FAYSAL, HE CLAIMED,

HAD TOLD ARAFAT THAT ALL WE REQUIRED IS A RESERVATION ON THE REFUGEE LANGUAGE, NOT THE SECOND PART OF OUR DRAFT STATEMENT. AS A RESULT, FAHMY'S OWN CREDIBILITY HAD BEEN HURT IN PROPOSING OUR FORMULATION. THE PLO, HE CONTENDED, STILL DOES NOT BELIEVE EGYPTIAN ARGUMENTS THAT WE REQUIRE THE FORMULATION HE HAD CONVEYED TO ARAFAT. DURING RECENT MEETINGS IN CAIRO, PLO LEADERSHIP HAD AGAIN ARGUED THAT FORMULATIONS PROPOSED BY SAUDIS AND EGYPTIANS ARE DIFFERENT. FAHMY CLAIMS HE SAID THIS COULD NOT BE. WE HAD INFORMED GOE THAT SAME FORMULATION WAS SENT TO ALL ARAB GOVERNMENTS (SECTO 8075). ARAFAT NEVERTHELESS INSISTED FORMULATION GIVEN HIM BY SAUDIS DELETES SECOND SENTENCE.

3. FAHMY SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL IF WE CONTACT THE SAUDIS TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE APPARENT CONFUSION AND TO ASK THEM TO EMPHASIZE TO PLO LEADERSHIP FACT THAT WE DEEM INCLUSION OF SECOND SENTENCE AS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR PURPOSES.

4. ALSO CONVEYED TO FAHMY SUBSTANCE PARA 3. HE WAS IN FULL AGREEMENT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON WEST BANK AND GAZA AND STATEMENT ON NEW SETTLEMENTS IN WEST BANK WERE IMPORTANT. HE HAD PICKED UP PHRASE "PRESENTLY OCCUPIED" TERRITORIES AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THIS LANGUAGE.

5. COMMENT: AS REPORTED ALEXANDRIA 805, FAHMY CLAIMED
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EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT THE VERSION THE SAUDIS WERE USING AS RESULT OF FAHD'S WASHINGTON TALKS WAS DIFFERENT FROM THAT WHICH YOU AND HE WORKED OUT IN ALEXANDRIA. PRE-SUMABLY THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN CLEARED UP AFTER WE GAVE THE SAME TEXT TO ALL PARTIES, INCLUDING THE SAUDIS. FACT REMAINS, HOWEVER, THAT FAHMY INSISTS, PERHAPS TO COVER UP FOR HIS OWN INABILITY PERSUADE ARAFAT, THAT SAUDIS ARE STILL PUTTING FORWARD A DIFFERENT VERSION OF OUR FORMULATION FROM THAT GIVEN TO THE EGYPTIANS. EILTS. UNQUOTE VANCE

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